## Mary Lazich Wisconsin State Senator • Senate District 28



## **Senate Committee on Transportation and Elections Testimony Senate Bill 270** October 31, 2011

Senate Bill 270 requires notarization of recall petitions. During the last year, it became apparent the current recall petition process is riddled with opportunity for fraud. Currently, petition circulators must sign a statement verifying the signatures are legal. During the summer's recall elections, it was widely reported that people signed recall petitions under false names and used inaccurate addresses. The Government Accountability Board disqualified thousands of signatures from recall petitions of both parties for these and other reasons. Reviewing and verifying signatures on the petitions required a tremendous amount of GAB manpower and resources.

Requiring notarization of recall petitions will add certainty, reduce fraud and help ensure signatures on petitions are legal, reducing the huge administrative costs of verification. This bill will ensure circulators are attentive to the signatures gathered.

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